Mountain Weather Forecast

Southwest Highlands

Including Ben Nevis, Glen Coe and the rest of Lochaber, Argyll including the Isles, Loch Lomond, Trossachs and Arran

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Tuesday 12 Jan 2021 until 23:59 on Wednesday 13 Jan 2021

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 12 Jan 2021 at 03:07 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for a cold and dry day Tuesday and for snow slowly spreading from west Wednesday, but Low confidence for how quickly any milder air spreads in on Wednesday, for snow amounts and for how quickly things improve on Thursday

Headline for Tuesday 12 Jan 2021: Mostly fine, dry and very cold, but the odd light snow shower in north in morning.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 12 Jan 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** No Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Clear night	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny intervals	Cloudy	Cloudy
Precipitation probability					
00%	00%	00%	00%	00%	00%

Forecast for Tuesday 12 Jan 2021

Weather: Dry with long clear periods overnight and very cold and frosty. Staying cold throughout Tuesday with frost and ice unlikely to thaw from many parts, even at low levels away from coastal ranges, but a dry and mostly sunny day is in store. Sunshine turning hazy as sun goes down with a veil of high cloud likely to spread from west after dark.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 90% with little cloud over the tops, though some patchy cloud for an hour or two after daybreak between 300 and 400m over more western ranges, but mainly towards the coast

Visibility: Generally excellent, though perhaps a little haze in the air at lower levels where frost thaws for a bit

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Forecast for Tuesday 12 Jan 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	23/26 NE	16/19 NE	10/13 W	8/10 SW	7/9 SE	6/8 S	7/8 S
900	7/9 N	6/8 N	5/8 NW	4/6 W	4/6 S	4/6 S	4/5 S
600	8/9 SW	5/7 W	4/6 SW	4/6 SW	3/5 W	3/4 NE	3/5 E
300	5/6 SE	3/5 SE	2/4 S	2/3 S	2/3 E	2/3 NE	3/4 NE
Glen	2/4 W	2/3 N	1/3 W	1/2 NE	2/3 E	2/3 E	2/5 E

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
1300	-6/-15	-5/-13	-5/-11	-6/-11	-6/-10	-5/-10	-5/-10
900	-5/-9	-4/-8	-3/-6	-4/-7	-7/-10	-6/-9	-5/-8
600	-1/-5	-1/-4	-1/-3	-1/-3	-1/-3	-1/-3	-1/-3
300	0/-2	1/-1	1/-0	2/0	1/-1	0/-1	0/-1
Glen	-0/-2	-1/-2	2/1	1/-1	0/-1	0/-1	0/-1
Freezing Level*	100m	100m	200m	200m	200m	100m	100m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Bitterly cold with a significant chill, even with winds easing and some glare from lying snow, though a low sun angle

Forecast for Wednesday 13 Jan 2021

Weather: High cloud thickening overnight but staying dry, though lower cloud later in the night will bring some patchy snow to western Argyll. Cloud lowering from the southwest in the morning with outbreaks of snow edging northeast across the area. Snow becoming heavier and more prolonged by lunchtime, with blizzards over the hills, but turning to rain below 800m in far west and towards the coast, also perhaps turning to rain for a time further east below around 500m, though this could fall onto frozen surfaces to bring treacherous conditions before increasingly turning back to snow even to quite low levels in the afternoon. Hill fog becoming extensive, even down to low levels.

Maximum wind: South or southeast 5-10mph gradually 20-25 gust 35mph in afternoon

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 80% at first with only scattered cloud above 800m, but falling through the morning to almost nil, with extensive cloud down to 450m, but lower in southwest.

Visibility: Very good, falling poor or very poor as snow arrives and almost nil in blizzard conditions.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 1 to minus 3 C rising slowly to plus 2 or 3 C, but plus 6C towards the coast
At 800m: Minus 2 C rising to plus 2 C in west
Freezing level: 300m, but rising to 1000m in far west.

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